IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

The State of Missouri, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., in his official capacity as President of the United States of America, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 22-cv-1213

DEFENDANTS' CONSENT MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE BRIEF IN EXCESS OF PAGE LIMITS

Defendants respectfully request leave to file a brief of up to 35 pages in support of their forthcoming response to Plaintiffs' supplemental brief, ECF No. 137. Plaintiffs consent to the relief requested.

Good cause supports this motion to exceed the page limits set forth in Local Rule 7.8. On November 21, 2022, the Fifth Circuit issued an order on the Government's petition for mandamus that directed this Court to address two questions: (1) whether the information sought by Plaintiffs through depositions of several high-ranking officials "can be obtained through less intrusive, alternative means," and (2) "whether further discovery should be paused until a ruling on" Defendants' Motion to Dismiss the Second Amended Complaint. Order on Pet. for Mandamus at 1, 4-5, *In re Murthy*, No. 22-30697 (5th Cir. Nov. 21, 2022). This Court then directed the parties to file supplemental briefs addressing those issues. *See* Order, ECF No. 127.

The Court granted Plaintiffs' request (which Defendants did not oppose) to file a 33-page supplemental brief, in excess of the page limits set forth in Local Rule 7.8. Plaintiffs filed that brief on November 29, 2022. Defendants' response is due today, December 2, 2022.

Defendants respectfully submit that an overlength brief is necessary to adequately address the issues raised by the Fifth Circuit, as directed by this Court, and to respond to the arguments raised in Plaintiffs' supplemental brief. Accordingly, Defendants request leave to file a supplemental response brief of up to 35 pages. Plaintiffs consent to this request. In accordance with the Local Rules of this Court, a proposed order is attached.

Dated: December 2, 2022 Respectfully submitted,

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